

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	v
Introduction	v
Purpose and Need	v
Relationship to Other Plans	vi
Overview of the Alternatives and Environmental Assessment	vi
Alternative 1: No Action	vii
Alternative 2: South Fork Merced River Bridge Replacement (Preferred Alternative)	vii
Environmentally Preferable Alternative	viii
Alternative 1: No Action	viii
Alternative 2: South Fork Merced River Bridge Replacement (Preferred Alternative)	viii
Environmentally Preferable Alternative	ix
Chapter I: Purpose and Need	I-1
Introduction	I-1
Purpose of and Need for the Project	I-5
Planning Context.....	I-6
Management Goals	I-7
Public Scoping	I-8
Organization of this Environmental Assessment	I-10
Chapter II: Alternatives	II-1
Introduction	II-1
Alternative 1: No Action	II-1
Alternative 2: South Fork Merced River Bridge Replacement (Preferred Alternative)	II-2
Alternatives Considered but Dismissed.....	II-10
Mitigation Measures for the Preferred Alternative	II-11
Summary of Environmental Consequences.....	II-17
Chapter III: Affected Environment	III-1
Introduction	III-1
Impact Topics Considered in this Assessment.....	III-1
Natural Resources	III-1
Cultural Resources	III-1
Social Resources	III-2
Impact Topics Dismissed from Further Analysis.....	III-2
Natural Resources	III-2
Cultural Resources	III-3
Social Resources	III-3
Regional Setting	III-3
Project Site Setting.....	III-5
Natural Resources	III-5
Geology, Geohazards, and Soils.....	III-5
Hydrology, Floodplains, and Water Quality.....	III-11
Wetlands	III-14
Biotic Communities.....	III-16
Special-Status Wildlife Species	III-18
Air Quality	III-27

Soundscapes and Noise	III-29
Cultural Resources.....	III-33
Archeological Overview and Resources	III-34
Ethnographic Overview and Resources.....	III-36
Cultural Landscape Overview and Resources (Including Historic Sites and Structures)	III-37
Social Resources	III-40
Transportation	III-41
Visitor Experience	III-42
Scenic Resources.....	III-43
Park Operations and Facilities.....	III-45
Chapter IV: Environmental Consequences.....	IV-1
Introduction	IV-1
Impact Analysis.....	IV-1
Cumulative Impacts	IV-1
Impairment.....	IV-2
Methodologies and Assumptions	IV-3
Channel Morphology	IV-5
Floodplains	IV-5
Alternative 1: No Action	IV-21
Natural Resources.....	IV-21
Cultural Resources	IV-40
Social Resources	IV-45
Socioeconomics	IV-45
Visitor Experience	IV-48
Scenic Resources.....	IV-50
Park Operations and Facilities.....	IV-52
Alternative 2: Preferred Alternative	IV-54
Natural Resources.....	IV-55
Cultural Resources	IV-69
Social Resources	IV-72
Chapter V: Merced Wild and Scenic River.....	V-1
Introduction	V-1
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.....	V-1
Merced River Plan Overview.....	V-3
Analysis of Consistency with the Merced River Plan.....	V-3
Chapter VI: Consultation and Coordination	VI-1
Introduction	VI-1
Scoping History	VI-1
Chapter VII: List of Preparers and Reviewers	VII-1
Chapter VIII: Glossary and Acronyms.....	VIII-1
Chapter IX: Bibliography.....	IX-1
Appendix A: Regulations and Policies	A-1

Appendix B: Section 7 Determination.....	B-1
Appendix C: Special-Status Species Evaluation.....	C-1
Appendix D: Cumulative Projects.....	D-1
Appendix E: Draft Wetland Statement of Findings	E-1
Appendix F: Draft Floodplain Statement of Findings	F-1

List of Figures

Figure I-1 Yosemite National Park and Vicinity	I-2
Figure II-1 Existing South Fork Bridge and Temporary Bailey Bridge	II-3
Figure II-2 New South Fork Bridge	II-4
Figure II-3 Wawona Area Map	II-8
Figure III-2. Faults in the Vicinity of Yosemite National Park.....	III-8
Figure III-3. Faults in the Vicinity of Yosemite National Park.....	III-9
Figure III-5. California Air Basins	III-28

List of Tables

Table II-1 Summary of Environmental Consequences	II-18
Table III-1. Wawona Land-Use Limitations Based On Soil Type.....	III-11
Table III-2. Recent Ozone and PM-10 Concentration Data for Yosemite National Park and Vicinity	III-30
Table III-3. Air Basin Attainment / Nonattainment Designations.....	III-31
Table IV-1. Typical Noise Levels Associated with Construction Equipment	IV-38
Table V-1. Impacts of the Preferred Alternative on Outstandingly Remarkable Values of the South Fork Merced River	V-6
Table B-1. Section 7 Evaluation for the South Fork Merced River Bridge Replacement Project.....	B-3
Table B-2. Impacts of the Preferred Alternative on Outstandingly Remarkable Values of the South Fork Merced River	B-10
Table C-1. Federal and State Threatened and Endangered Species and Species of Special Concern	C-4